

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 12121 190956Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 /049 W

----- 046877

R 190618Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7794

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 12121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB IN BG

SUBJECT: FARAKKA

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO DACCA FROM CALCUTTA

AUG 18 REPEATED:

QUOTE

CALCUTTA 2024

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB IN BG

SUBJ: FARAKKA

1. HINDUSTAN STANDARD, AUGUST 17, CARRIES FRONT PAGE ARTICLE ENTITLED "FARAKKA WATER MUST KEEP FLOWING," SLUGGED "BY A STAFF WRITER." THIS IS THE FIRST SUCH ARTICLE WE HAVE SEEN IN CALCUTTA PRESS IN SEVERAL MONTHS. ARTICLE STATES THAT "HYDROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS MADE DURING THE LAST 16 YEARS..INDICATE THAT THE RATE OF FLOW (OF FARAKKA OFFTAKE) MUST NOT BE WHITTLED DOWN, DESPITE IMAGINED DIFFICULTIES OF BANGLADESH, IF PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REGIME OF THE RIVER ARE TO BE ACHIEVED," ARTICLE SAYS HOOGHLY RIVER SHOULD BE RESTORED TO CONDITION IN 1936, SINCE WHEN SILTING AND INCREASED SALINITY HAVE CREATED MANY PROBLEMS.

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2. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, CALCUTTA PORT TRUST HAS ALREADY NOTED IMPROVEMENTS IN BOTH THESE AREAS SINCE THE FARAKKA BARRAGE HAS BEGUN OPERATION. THUS FAR, "DREDGING BENEFITS ARE MORE REMARKABLE IN THE RIVER'S UPPER REACHES AND, IT IS HOPED, THESE WILL BE GRADUALLY REAPED DOWNSTREAM TOO, UP TO THE ESTUARY. TO CONSOLIDATE ALL THESE ADVANTAGES, NOT ONLY THE FLOW OF 40,000 CUSECS FROM FARAKKA HAS TO BE ENSURED, THAT (SIC--BUT?) THIS HAS ALSO TO CONTINUE FOR THE FUTURE AS WDL." "

3. ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT WAS "LESS THAN COOPERATIVE" WITH WORK OF JOINT TEAM WHICH EVALUATED IMPACT OF FARAKKA ON BANGLADESH RIVERS IN 1975. INDIAN EXPERTS SAID TO HAVE TAKEN EXTENSIVE READINGS, BUT COULD NOT REACH CONCLUSIONS BECAUSE BANGLADESH OFFICIALS WOULD NOT PROVIDE THEM WITH DATA FROM PREVIOUS YEARS.

4. REPORT ALSO SAYS BANGLADESH WANTS INDIA TO TAKE MORE WATER FROM GANGES DURING PEAK FLOOD PERIODS, AND CONCLUDES, "ITS GREAT NEED FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH BANGLADESH NOTWITHSTANDING, INDIA CANNOT OBVIOUSLY AGREE TO PRUNE ITS OWN DEMAND FOR FARAKKA WATERS FROM 40,000 CUSECS DURING THE LEAN SEASON, NOR RAISE THE ACCEPTABLE QUANTUM TO EXCEED 100,000 CUSECS DURING THE PEAK MONSOON MONTHS."

SIGNED KORN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WATER DIVERSION, FARAKKA BARRAGE, INTERNATIONAL RIVERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, IN, BG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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